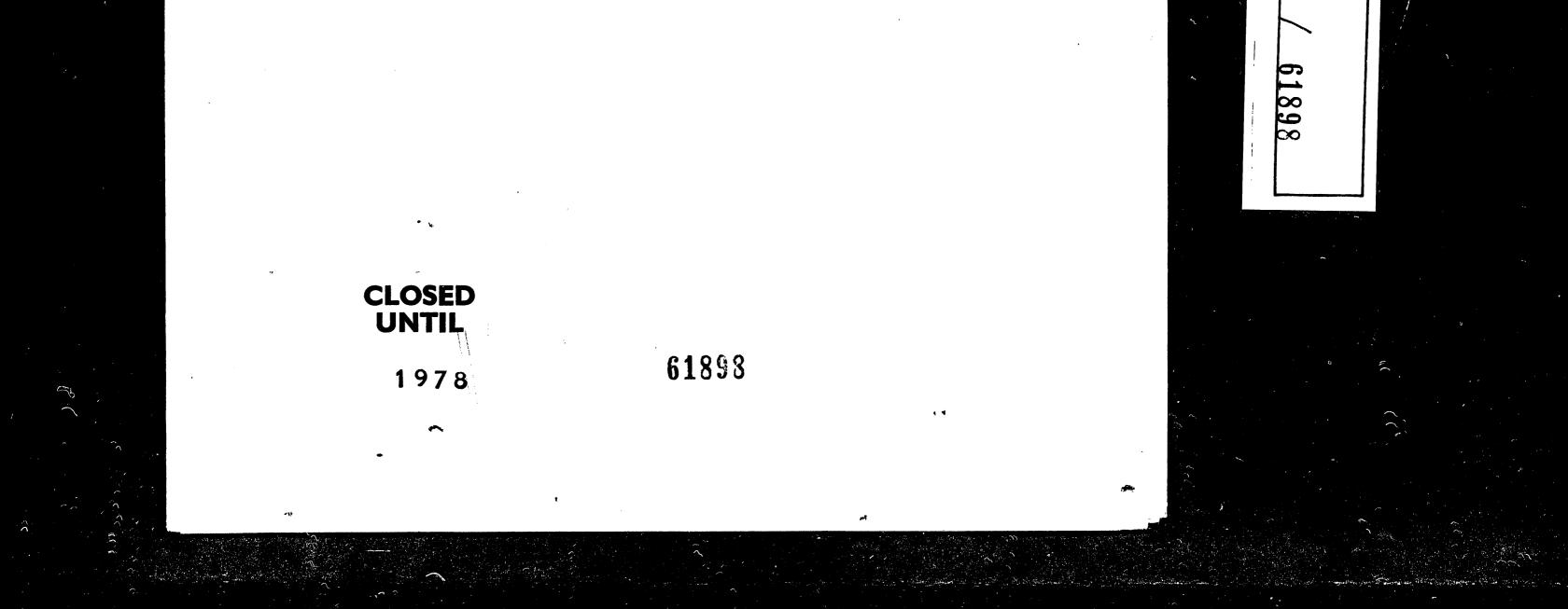
## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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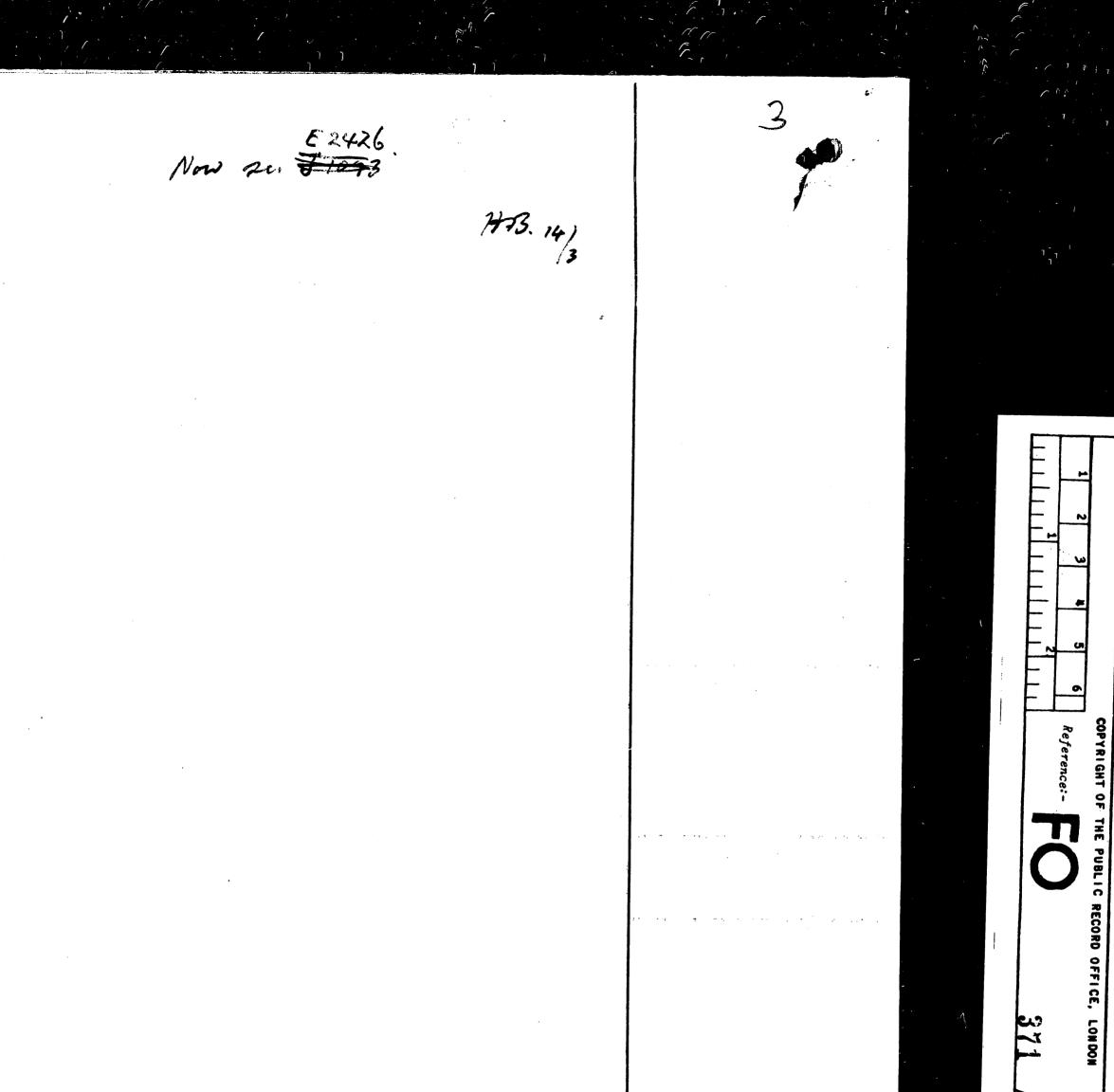
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E 125 Colonial Office, Downing Street, S.W.1. 13 10<sup>E</sup> February, 1947.

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Reference:-

Dear Baster

The High Commissioner for Palestine raised with us during his recent visit a question which appears to be outstanding between the Palestine Government and His Majesty's Ambassador, Cairo. It concerns the initiation of discussions between the Palestine and Egyptian Governments regarding the establishment of a joint frontier railway station and control post. From a note on this subject by the Palestine Government, a copy of which I enclose, you will see that the usefulness of beginning such conversations depends, in some degree, on the question whether under the new Egyptian Treaty any adjustment of the Palestine-Egyptian Frontier will be made.×

We should be grateful if you could let us know how matters stand.

In view of possible military interest in this project I am sending a copy of this letter to Atkinson M.O.4.

Your much Haffred Smith \* ps, Dubted before the collapse of negotiations.

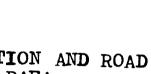
C. W. BAXTER, ESQ., C.M.G.



NOTE BY PALESTINE GOVERNMENT

JOINT PALESTINE-EGYPTIAN RAILWAY STATION AND ROAD AND RAIL FRONTIER CONTROL AT RAFA.

There has been correspondence over a period of two years between this Government and the British Ambassador in Cairo regarding the rumoured intention of the Egyptian Government to move their frontier control from Kantara to Rafa, a move which would of course involve a move from Kantara of the Palestine customs and immigration controls. In March 1946 it was suggested by the High Commissioner in a despatch to His Majesty's Ambassador that there should be discussions with the Egyptian authorities with a view to the establishment of a joint railway station straddling the frontier and joint road and rail customs and immigration controls there. On the 28th November 1946 the Egyptian Minister for Foreign Affairs notified His Majesty's Ambassador that the Egyptian Government was prepared to consider the proposal to establish a joint railway station as a basis for discussion and that the Egyptian Government now invited the Palestine Government to nominate delegates for this discussion. Owing to the large military installations on both sides of the Frontier at Rafa it is clearly desirable that the British military authorities should be represented in the negotiations. It is understood that the question of a change of frontier, so as to include within Palestine military establishments lying south of the present line, has been under consideration in the course of negotiations for a revision of the Egyptian Treaty. It is clearly undesirable that discussions with the Egyptian Government as to a joint frontier railway station and control post should take place if the proposed change of frontier is still a live issue. If information could be obtained on this point then discussions with the Egyptian Government as to the frontier station can proceed; in some practical aspects an early determination of the location of the future frontier railway station and controls is desirable. For example the existing Palestine customs /control



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